

THE BLOOMFIELD CITIZEN.

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BLOOMFIELD, N. J., SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 1903.

PRICE FIVE CENTS.

THE WATER PROBLEM.

NO OFFICIAL INFORMATION ABOUT THE STATE OF AFFAIRS.

Town Council Criticized for Letting the Matter Get Away From It—Should Have Taken Definite Action on the Water Company's Proposition—Water Sellers Now Have the Advantage.

The water supply problem, which was taken out of the hands of the Town Council several weeks ago and placed in the hands of a committee of fifteen, which committee included all the members of the Town Council, has not yet made a report, and up to the present time no one is possessed of any official information as to when the committee will report.

It was customary in the days of Township Committee government when over the Town Committee came in contact with an unusually large problem in the course of the administration of government to call the citizens together and get an expression of public opinion as to the proper course to pursue. Theoretically such a course is consistent with ideal government, but it is not always applicable in large municipalities, and acting under the assumption that Bloomfield had grown too large for the application of primitive Township Committee form of government to its affairs, a change was made and a new form of government known as the Town Act adopted. This new form was said to greatly enlarge the scope of the governmental authorities, and to a corresponding degree relieve the people of direct co-operation in matters of government.

When the time for making a new water contract arrived the Town Council, either through lack of confidence in itself or fearful of assuming responsibility in such a large and important matter, gave the wheel of progress a turn backward, and resorted to the old method of calling the citizens together with the intention of thrusting the responsibility upon them or of dividing it with them.

The result of this lack of firmness or an evident desire to avoid responsibility on the part of the Council has resulted in placing the town in an awkward predicament in the matter of obtaining a water supply, with the probable result that a contract with higher rates will soon be in force.

The position of the town of Bloomfield with regard to its need of water is well known among those who make a business of selling water, and these people are so linked together that there is not likely to be any keen competition for the privilege of supplying the town with water.

The Town Council had ample opportunity to study the situation long before the water contract expired and to get in a position for positive action. It is evident that the town, if it is to continue an independent municipality, must make provision now for water in accordance with terms dictated by the water sellers and not the would-be water purchasers.

When the Orange Water Company made a definite statement to the Council naming the price at which it would sell its plant to the town as a matter of business the Council should have replied with a definite statement as to the amount it deemed proper to offer for the plant on the part of the town.

The question of whether the town ought to own the plant or not is practically settled in the affirmative if independent municipal existence is to be maintained. The only practical question at issue is the price. Very few people would think of censuring the Council if it had entered into negotiations of its own accord with the Orange Water Company and purchased the plant.

It is understood of course that final determination of the water question would be by the people at a special election held for the purpose.

The Orange Water Company offered to let out the town for \$150,000. At that stage of the proceedings it was up to the water company to set a price, and the management would have been derelict in its duty to the company's stockholders if it had failed to ask enough. Fortunately for the water company's stockholders the management has never been negligent of their interests, and undue modesty has never been a weakness of any of the water company's propositions.

The Council should have countered this move of the water company with an offer on its part, and when terms had been agreed upon then the case would have been submitted to the people for their decision.

It was a mistake on the part of the Council to permit the water question to be taken out of their hands and handed indefinitely.

Mr. Glendon Recovering.
Daniel Glendon, Jr., the smallpox patient in the isolation hospital at Brookfield, is rapidly recovering from his illness. Thus far there appears to be no indication of any spread of the disease.

Agents Mould.

Miss Jeanette Mould, daughter of Mrs. Katherine Mould of East Orange, and Frederick T. Agens of the same place, were married in their new home, at No. 14 Wilcox place, East Orange, Wednesday afternoon, by Rev. William Whiting Davis, rector of Christ Episcopal Church. The bride, who wore a gown of white tulle, and carried white roses, was attended by Mrs. William H. Smiley of Newburg, N. Y., as matron of honor. She was attired in white chiffon and carried pink chrysanthemums. Joseph Wyatt of Brooklyn was best man. Miss Helen Mould of Newburg, a sister of the bride, bore the ring on a small silver tray, and two little girls, Miss Elsie and Miss Ethel Mould, also sisters of the bride, were flower girls. The marriage was celebrated at 5:30 o'clock, and a reception followed.

Bloomfield Prize Winners.

Bloomfield fowls carried off the honors at the poultry show held on Young's pier, Atlantic City, last week under the auspices of the Atlantic City Poultry and Pet Stock Association. Dr. J. S. Wolfe of Ella street won the \$25 in gold, special prize for the best display of fowls of any variety outside of the American class. The doctor also won the \$10 gold prize for the best display of Hamburgs and the Sweep Stake special, a ribbon for the best Hamburgs in the show, any variety, and carried off all the first, second and third prizes for silver spangled Hamburgs. Perry Maxfield of Franklin street also won a number of prizes on red-breasted game and bantams. Mr. Maxfield won five first prizes, three second prizes, four third prizes and two fourth prizes.

Independent Water Supply.

If there were no argument of economy, the wisdom of an independent supply is hardly to be questioned, and when we can do so at an actual and substantial saving, taxpayers will urge all possible promptness in its completion. The chairman of the Water Committee is understood to personally favor a continuance of the contract with Newark, or with some other corporation, but his personal preference will in no wise interfere with his efforts now to carry out what is shown so unmistakably to be the wishes of all his colleagues and of the public generally. —East Orange Gazette.

The Park Project.

The proposition for the extension of Wataesing Park along the line proposed by citizens of East Orange meets with much favor in the Second District of the First Ward of East Orange and the Second District of the Third Ward of this town, the two districts most directly benefitted by the project, and it is desired that steps be taken to get the matter before the County Park Commissioners.

Still in Suspense.

More complications have arisen in the Linden avenue improvement assessment case, and to all appearances no prospect for a speedy settlement is in sight, and it will not be at all surprising if it goes over to another Council. The latest complications are said to be due to a refusal of the Town Engineer to work with the Citizens' Committee in verifying the measurements of the work done in the street.

Likely to be Deferred.

It is unofficially stated that no action will be taken for the present on the proposition to establish a fire company in the Montgomery district. The state of the town finances is the reason given for a temporary abandonment of the project. Public sentiment appeared to be against the scheme.

Getting Ready for Elevation.

Telegraph linemen have been at work along the line of the Lackawanna Railroad during the past week relocating the telegraph lines north and south of the Glenwood avenue crossing. This work is said to be a preliminary step towards some track elevation work that will be undertaken here in the near future.

Reported Robberies.

It is reported that several burglaries have occurred in Glen Ridge of late but the details concerning them have not been made public. It is said that an official of the borough returned from his vacation trip this past week and found that his house had been entered and ransacked by thieves.

Walsh-Dupre.

Alfred W. Walsh of New York and Miss Annie Dupre of this town were married on Wednesday evening at the home of the bride's brother, No. 34 Smith street. The Rev. Dr. C. S. Woodruff of the Park M. E. Church officiated.

Labor Day.

With the exception of some base-ball games in various parts of the town, there will be no special Labor Day attractions here. Many will no doubt attend the Labor Day celebrations in Orange and Newark, while others have arranged to go to the seashore.

A SATURDAY DIVERSION

That Relieved the Monotony at Wataesing Centre—Two Montclair Men Fought a Pugilistic Entertainment—Interrupted by the Police.

Two Montclair men were the participants in a street fight at Wataesing Centre on Saturday evening between five and six o'clock. The principals in the fight and the promoters of it were of course intoxicated, or they would have chosen some less public place for the fight duels.

A ring was formed in the muddy street and a large crowd of spectators saw the fight, some of whom were deeply interested in it. Others were amused by it, and not a few local business men and tax-paying property-owners were disgusted and angry over the bold desecration of law, order and decency. The fight went on for about ten minutes. Some people were disposed to interfere and put a stop to it, but the backers of the respective pugilists would allow no interference.

It was what the boys call a "fair" fight. Owing to the unsteady condition of the principals they were frequently rolling in the road, and the seconds were kept busy replacing them on their pins. It was a rule of the fight that neither principal should hit the other while down, but a bystander who feared that his favorite was getting the worst of it transgressed the rule by kicking one of the combatants in the eye while the men were down.

The crowd of small boys who were attracted by the fight were delighted with the spirit of fairness shown by the seconds in making the principals stand up to the fight.

Some nervous people on the outside marred the pleasure of the sport by continually crying, "Oh, what a shame!" "Oh, what a disgrace!" "This is Bloomfield's 'hell's half-acre'!" "Why don't some one send for the police?" "Oh, where are the police?" Both combatants were in a bloody, muddy, tired state when the cry of "Cheese it, a cop!" caused the crowd to scatter, and the seconds hurried one of the principals on board of a train for Montclair, which stood at the station. Policeman George Maxwell succeeded in capturing the other one and took him to the police station, where Recorder Post put him under bail to appear when wanted for trial. The trial took place on Monday night, and both principals in the fight were fined five dollars.

The fight is on record as the largest attended and best conducted street fight that ever took place in Wataesing Centre. If the excited spectators who kicked one of the principals in the eye had only restrained himself the fight would have been a perfect one from an athletic point of view.

It is a matter of regret that the people of Montclair will not permit such Saturday afternoon diversions in that town. It is giving Wataesing too much of a good thing to have Montclair's excellent pugilistic talent give all its exhibitions free of charge in Wataesing Centre. Recorder Post should impose a higher license fee for such entertainment, regardless of the political pull of the principals.

Job Haines Home Service.

Prof. Weber of the German Theological Seminary was obliged to fill Rev. Mr. Huthig's house on Sunday afternoon, and several of the choir from the German Presbyterian Church went with him notwithstanding the severe storm. The service was interesting in its character and the professor by his warm and friendly greetings endeared himself to these aged people. To-morrow (Sunday) at 4 p. m. Rev. Chas. A. Cook will have charge of the service. Mr. Cook has been faithful to these people, who have always looked forward to the pleasure of meeting him on the first Sunday in every month. To-morrow most likely will be a farewell service, as his new responsibilities take him to other fields of labor. The public are always welcome to these services.

Pleased With Hesterfer.

Lawrence Hesterfer, the graduate from Wataesing Amateur Base-ball Club to the Newark Eastern League (professional club), has proved a valuable acquisition to that club. The majority of the victories won by the Newark club this season have been won with Hesterfer in the pitcher's box. Hesterfer has many friends in this town who have been regular attendants at the Newark club's games this season, and they are emphatic in the declaration that he is one of the best pitchers in the Eastern League club.

Ladies' Postures.

Ladies' postures, shirt-waist suits, fancy waists, cut and basted. Finishing touches to home-made gowns. High grade patterns cut to measure. Call 10 A. M. to 4 P. M. Mondays and Saturdays excepted. Mrs. CONWAY, 87 Clinton Street near Washington Street, formerly of 1734 Broadway, N. Y.—Advt.

THE SPECIAL ELECTION.

A Correspondent Thinks that Capitalistic Influences are Behind the Constitutional Amendments and Urging Their Adoption—Will Give Himself the Benefit of a Doubt and Vote Against Them.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE CITIZEN:

SIR: A special election will be held on September 22, at which it is very likely that in many districts but few votes will be polled. The issue is the adoption or rejection of certain constitutional amendments affecting the judiciary of the State. The question of voting for or against the adoption of the amendments is not one that the average voter can readily and rightly decide for himself, owing to a lack of knowledge and experience of the make-up and workings of the existing State judiciary. Some general impressions imbibed by the lay mind with respect to the judiciary would seem to be of a tendency adverse to any change.

The proverbial "Jersey justice" has tended to create in the mind of the citizen a sentimental pride in the present judiciary, and the honorable roll of the Court of Chancery is a monumental record of probity and equity that commands the reverential awe of every Jerseyite, and a proposition that would change the manner and method of making up this time honored and devoutly respected branch of the State judiciary seems like a ruthless trampling upon long cherished and firmly entrenched sentiment. From a sentimental standpoint a vote against the adoption of the amendments appears to be the proper course for the man who is not a member of the legal fraternity. By such a course the voter is simply giving himself the benefit of the doubt and acting from a conservative standpoint.

On the contrary, many of the ablest lawyers of the State have advised the adoption of the amendments. The gratuitousness of the advice and the immense quantity of it are matters that of themselves aroused the suspicion of the laity. Legal opinions upon constitutional questions are generally among the highest priced articles in the legal market, and to be thus blessed with a superfluity of such opinions free of cost is a just cause for suspicious inference.

Among some of those who have most ardently striven to impress upon the people that the proper way to vote on the 22d inst. is to vote in favor of the amendments, are lawyers prominently identified with the various phases of litigation in which some of the gigantic corporations organized under the laws of this State are from time to time involved, and which is assuming proportions beyond the adequacy of the present judiciary to expedite and dispose of.

It is not denied that these same large corporate interests have of recent years secured legislative enactments that have proved beneficial to the carrying out of extensive capitalistic enterprises, and these have resulted in litigation of corresponding magnitude and beyond the capacity of the present judiciary.

It is assumed that the constitutional amendments are framed to meet the new and enlarged conditions. But the taxpayers in the State of New Jersey are not all millionaires, and thousands of them never anticipate or hope to be involved in any litigation beyond the jurisdiction of the local Justice of the Peace, and as that minor branch of the State judiciary derives no pecuniary benefit from the adoption of the amendments the army of people who are placed as small taxpayers will find no good reason for sanctioning greater emoluments to the incumbents of the higher branches of the State judiciary.

The proposition to change the method of making appointments of Court of Chancery judges is one of the features of the amendments that will not meet with the approbation of many people who have the profoundest reverence for that honored branch of the State judiciary, and who feel that its unexcelled usefulness and its time honored reputation is in no small measure due to the existing system of appointment of Vice-Chancellors.

Under the present system the Court of Chancery has been kept absolutely free from political influences and the judges have not been subjected to the humiliating aspect of trucking to lawyers possessing political influence in order to insure reappointment, such as prominent men in some other branches of the judiciary have had to do or voluntarily stooped to do.

Some of the big corporations popularly termed trusts have learned by experience that the New Jersey Court of Chancery is both a dangerous and difficult place in which to air their grievances, and it is surmised that the amendments which the people are urged by the lawyers to adopt will not add to the dangers or difficulties encountered by the trusts in Chancery proceedings.

Notwithstanding the urgent advice of eminent lawyers, and despite the fact that present Vice-Chancellors have

spoken favorably upon the amendments, people who do not feel sure of their ground and are frank enough to admit their ignorance of the intent and purport of the whole project will not be doing violence to good sense by voting against the amendments. LAYMAN.

Found Lost Girl.

Hazel Jaesen, the thirteen-year-old girl who ran away from the home of her parents on Garden avenue, Belleville, twice within a week, was found Monday night in this town. She refused to go home with her mother at first, but after much persuasion, she decided to accompany her parents.

Mrs. Jaesen found the girl at the residence of Charles Lockwood on Henry street, where she had been taken in on Monday night, after she told a sad tale of being unable to get along with her mother, and of being finally forced to run away. Her mother reported the case to Chief of Police Collins when the girl refused to accompany her. Policeman Baylis took her to the police station, but when she persisted in her refusal she was allowed to remain over night at Mr. Lockwood's house.

The girl was taken before Recorder Post Wednesday morning, and her parents pleaded with her to go home. They talked with her a long time before she finally consented to accompany them.

According to the story the girl told Chief Collins, her mother is an inveterate tea drinker, and is of a very nervous disposition. Her continued harping and nagging so prays on the daughter's mind, the latter said, that she could stand it no longer, and decided to run away.

Base-Ball.

The rain storm last Saturday upset all local base-ball schedules. The game between the Wataesings and the Orange A. C. was postponed until Labor Day morning, when it will be played on the Oval.

The game announced to take place at Englewood this afternoon between the Wataesings and Englewood Field Club has been postponed, and instead the Wataesings will play the Bay View Wheelmen on the Arlington avenue grounds this afternoon. The Bay View Wheelmen played a good game on the occasion of a previous visit, here when they were defeated by the close score of 8 to 6.

On Monday afternoon the Wataesings will play the St. Xavier's College baseball club of New York city on the Arlington avenue grounds. The St. Xavier's have defeated the Morocco Club of New York, and they are regarded as one of the best amateur clubs in the city.

Alleged Mad Dog.

A pug dog, supposed to be mad, created much excitement in front of the residence of Thomas Decker, the liveryman, on Broad street, Monday afternoon. It was not until several shots had been fired into the dog's body that life was extinct. The dog belonged to Herbert Adams.

While on Broad street the animal began to bite and snap, finally attacking Adams, who shot it. Several boys procured a rope to drag the canine's body to a burying ground. They were adjusting the rope around the dog's neck, when it jumped up and ran toward the crowd which had assembled. Three bullets were quickly fired into the dog's body and these ended its life.

No one was bitten. The dog was a pet in the Adams family. It is believed that it was bitten several weeks ago by a rabid dog which passed through the town.

Brother Snyder Entertains.

Morris Snyder, a recently created Elk, and a member of Bloomfield Lodge, entertained his brother Elks with a banquet in the lodge room on Monday night. Brother "Niek" Duggan of Bloomfield Lodge prepared and served the repast, which was an excellent one, both in quality and quantity. Elks to the number of over one hundred surrounded the banquet table, and said nice things about Brother Snyder in prose, poetry and song. Professor John F. Dillon, the humorist, enhanced the festivities with songs and stories. Brother Snyder was declared a true blooded Elk and right up to the work in the Order's chief principle, hospitality.

Labor Day Parade.

There will be a big Labor Day parade in Orange Monday. The line will form in Cone street, and the route will be down Main street to the junction, countermarching up Main street to Essex avenue, to Henry street, to Lincoln avenue, to Central avenue, to Valley road, to Forest street, and around the Fourth Ward School to Valley road again, to Main street, where the parade will be dismissed at Cone street.

Fire Business Bait.

The town has enjoyed a remarkable freedom from fires this past summer. The truck house fire has been the only one the fire department has been called out for since June 1.

PRIMARY ELECTIONS

WILL BE HELD TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER EIGHTH.

Will be Conducted Along the Same Lines as a General Election—Polls will be Open from One O'clock to Nine O'clock P. M.—The Polling Places and the Nominations.

Primary election will be held in this town Tuesday. The voting places are as follows: First Ward, First District, Schneider's barber shop, No. 31 Broad street; Second District, No. 149 Montgomery street; Second Ward, Excelsior Hose House, No. 379 Broad street; Third Ward, First District, Dodd's Hall, No. 287 Glenwood avenue; Second District, Active Hose House, No. 26 Willow street.

The primary will be held from one to nine o'clock P. M., and will be conducted by the Board of Registry and Election in each district in the same manner that a regular election is conducted with the exception that a person desiring to vote must specify the political party ticket he is going to vote and can have no other. Official ballots will be used at the primaries, but without envelopes. All the Republican candidates for member of the Republican County Committee, and for delegates to the Republican County Convention are on the one ticket, and voters must erase the names of those they do not desire to vote for. The Democratic ticket is the same.

There will be contesting Republican candidates for member of the County Committee and for delegates to the Assembly Convention, in the First District of the First Ward and both districts of the Third Ward. In the Second Ward the contest is for member of the County Committee, while there is no contest for Convention or delegates. In the Second District of the First Ward there will be no contest for either committeeman or delegate.

The Democratic party will place tickets in the field in every election district of the town except the Second District of the Third Ward. The Democrats only elect delegates to the Democratic County Convention.

The First Ward, First District Republican ticket will bear the following names: For member of the Republican County Committee the contestants are Walter M. Hopler and Charles A. Verner. The names on the ticket for delegates to the County Convention are Harry L. Osborne, Clarence E. Van Winkle, J. Adolph Welmar, George M. Cadmus, Samuel G. Hayter, and Andrew C. White. Only three of the above are to be elected.

The Democratic ticket in the First District of the First Ward bears the names of George B. Tucker and Zebulon G. Wood for delegates to the County Convention.

The First Ward, Second District Republican ticket is as follows: For member of the County Committee, James C. Brown. For delegates to the County Convention, Charles F. Koether and Charles H. Madole.

The Second District Democratic ticket bears the name of Andrew De Laney for delegate to the County Convention.

The Second Ward Republican ticket is as follows: For member of the County Committee, Charles F. Hummel, and Frank V. Oakes, only one to be chosen. For delegates to the County Convention, Robert E. Day, George Fisher, and Arthur S. Picking.

The Second Ward Democratic ticket is as follows: W. F. Harrison, and Edward A. Gruber.

The Third Ward, First District, Republican ticket bears the names of Charles W. Powers, and Charles R. Underwood, for member of the County Committee, only one to be chosen. For delegates to the County Convention, Thomas Agnew, Jr., Charles A. Keyler, William H. Burn, and Joseph Wambold, only two to be chosen.

The Democratic ticket in the First District of the Third Ward names Victor F. Corras for delegate to the County Convention.

The Third Ward, Second District, Republican ticket names William K. Betts, and Frank Foster for member of the County Committee, only one to be chosen. For delegates to the County Convention, John Ashworth, Thomas A. Faucett, James Y. Nicoll, and William W. Milford, only two to be chosen.

Sunday-school Picnic.

The picnic of the Sunday-school of St. John's Lutheran Church will be held on Labor Day, Monday, September 7, in Keller's woods on Belleville avenue, below Orchard street. The children will leave the church at 9 o'clock A. M. for the woods. Another wagon will leave the church at 1 P. M. for older people. All members and friends of the congregation are invited to attend.

Musical Instruction.

Mrs. Bennett-Francis. For terms and further particulars call at or address 8 Race Street, Bloomfield, N. J.—Advt.